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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary**Application No.**

10/815,043

Applicant(s)

OGURA, MASAOKI

Examiner

JUNG KIM

Art Unit

2432

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 17 November 2008.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-39 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-39 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SG/US)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. This Office action is in response to the amendment filed on 11/17/09.
2. Claims 1-39 are pending.

Response to Amendment

3. The double patenting rejections to claims 1, 10-14, 31-35, 40-44 and 46-51 as being unpatentable over claims 1-43 of copending Application No. 11,006,356 are withdrawn as copending application 11,006,356 has been expressly abandoned.
4. The 112/2nd paragraph rejections are withdrawn as the amendments overcome the 112/2nd paragraph rejections.
5. The 101 rejections to claims 31-39 are withdrawn as the amendments overcome the 101 rejections.

Response to Arguments

6. Applicant's arguments with respect to the amended claims have been considered but they are not persuasive. Applicant's arguments that the claimed subject matter is not suggested by the prior art only considers the teaching of Vilhuber, and does not consider the teachings of Vilhuber in view of Amro. As outlined below in the rejections, the claims are rendered obvious in view of the combined teachings of Vilhuber and Amro. Amro discloses a method for building a computer system, whereby a production identifier is associated with order information and is stored in a database; wherein the production identifier is coded as a barcode on an identification device; once the barcode

is scanned, the production identifier is stored in a server; when the computer system is assembled then powered up, the production identifier is sent to the server, where a script on the server associated with the scanned identifier is executed; one or more software components are then installed onto the computer system by the server. Figs. 2 and 3, col. 2:60-3:8; 3:52-4:4; 4:48-65. Therefore, it would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made for the invention of Vilhuber to include a production management system for providing production numbers as part of the identification information and a scanning unit for scanning identification information from a communication device. One would be motivated to do so for an efficient means of provisioning computing systems as known to one of ordinary skill in the art. See also, Amro, col. 1:27-32.

7. With respect to Applicant's argument that "the Vilhuber reference teaches away from the patentable features since it emphasizes the importance of a self-contained system without preferably communicating with an external certificate authority" (Remarks, pg. 25), this argument is not persuasive because 1) these features are not specified in the claims, and 2) the Vilhuber reference expressly discloses a preferred embodiment where the provisioning environment "communicate[s] with a remote certificate authority 110 as part of a device identity verification and certification process." Col. 8:19-21.

8. For these reasons, Applicant's arguments are not persuasive, and the claims remain rejected under the prior art of record.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

9. Claims 10-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Vilhuber et al. US 7,386,721 (hereinafter Vilhuber) in view of Amro et al. US 7,159,018 (hereinafter Amro).
10. As per claim 10, Vilhuber discloses an information processing apparatus for obtaining a digital certificate for communication devices (fig. 2, reference no. 202), comprising:
- a. a digital certificate transmission request unit for adding identification information of a communication device to a digital certificate transmission request for obtaining a digital certificate to be used for confirming the communication device during communication and transmitting the identification-information-added digital certificate transmission request to a digital certificate management device (5:19-24; 6:36-49); and
 - b. a digital certificate processing unit connected to said digital certificate transmission request unit for receiving a corresponding one of the digital certificates from the digital certificate management device in response to the identification-information-added digital certificate transmission request, said processing digital certificate unit transmitting the correspondingly received digital certificate to the communication device and writing the correspondingly received digital certificate to memory in the communication device. (8:5-8 and lines 21-49)

11. Vilhuber does not disclose a production management system for providing production numbers as part of the identification information and a scanning unit for scanning identification information from a communication device. Amro discloses a method for building a computer system, whereby a production identifier is associated with order information and is stored in a database; wherein the production identifier is coded as a barcode on an identification device; once the barcode is scanned, the production identifier is stored in a server; when the computer system is assembled then powered up, the production identifier is sent to the server, where a script on the server associated with the scanned identifier is executed; one or more software components are then installed onto the computer system by the server. Figs. 2 and 3, col. 2:60-3:8; 3:52-4:4; 4:48-65. It would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made for the invention of Vilhuber to include a production management system for providing production numbers as part of the identification information and a scanning unit for scanning identification information from a communication device. One would be motivated to do so for an efficient means of provisioning computing systems as known to one of ordinary skill in the art. See also, Amro, col. 1:27-32.

12. Finally, the feature of connecting the digital certificate transmission request unit with the scanning unit would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art because the information scanned from the barcode is included in the certificate request. The aforementioned cover the limitations of claim 10.

13. As per claim 11, Vilhuber discloses an information processing apparatus for obtaining a digital certificate for communication devices (fig. 2, reference no. 202), comprising:

- c. a digital certificate transmission request unit for adding identification information of a predetermined number of communication devices for production to a digital certificate transmission request for obtaining digital certificates to be used for confirming the communication devices during communication, said digital certificate transmission request unit transmitting the identification-information-added digital certificate transmission request to a digital certificate management device (5:19-24; 6:39-40);
- d. a digital certificate processing unit connected to said digital certificate transmission request unit for receiving corresponding ones of the digital certificates from the digital certificate management device in response to the identification-information-added digital certificate transmission request, said digital certificate processing unit temporarily storing the correspondingly received digital certificates in memory of an information processing device (6:36-50); and
- e. an inputting unit connected to said digital certificate processing unit for inputting a portion of the identification information on the predetermined number of the communication devices to said digital certificate processing unit (5:53-67; 9:6-38), wherein said digital certificate processing unit reading the digital certificates corresponding to the inputted identification information from the information processing device, said digital certificate processing unit transmitting

each of the correspondingly read digital certificates to a corresponding one of the communication devices according to the inputted identification information and writing each of the correspondingly read digital certificates to memory in the corresponding one of the communication devices. (8:5-8 and lines 21-49)

14. Vilhuber does not disclose a production management system for providing production numbers as part of the identification information and a scanning unit for scanning identification information from a communication device. Amro discloses a method for building a computer system, whereby a production identifier is associated with order information and is stored in a database; wherein the production identifier is coded as a barcode on an identification device; once the barcode is scanned, the production identifier is stored in a server; when the computer system is assembled then powered up, the production identifier is sent to the server, where a script on the server associated with the scanned identifier is executed; one or more software components are then installed onto the computer system by the server. Figs. 2 and 3, col. 2:60-3:8; 3:52-4:4; 4:48-65. It would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made for the invention of Vilhuber to include a production management system for providing production numbers as part of the identification information and a scanning unit for scanning identification information from a communication device. One would be motivated to do so for an efficient means of provisioning computing systems as known to one of ordinary skill in the art. See also, Amro, col. 1:27-32.
15. Finally, the feature of connecting the digital certificate transmission request unit with the scanning unit would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art because the

information scanned from the barcode is included in the certificate request. The aforementioned cover the limitations of claim 11.

16. As per claim 12, the rejection of claim 11 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Vilhuber in view of Amro is incorporated herein. In addition, Vilhuber discloses the information processing apparatus according to claim 11 further comprising a coding unit connected to said digital certificate processing unit for coding each of the correspondingly read digital certificates prior to transmitting to a corresponding one of the communication devices according to the inputted identification information. Fig. 2, reference nos. 206 and 210.

17. As per claim 13, the rejection of claim 11 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Vilhuber in view of Amro is incorporated herein. Although Vilhuber does not expressly disclose an additional step of setting a completion flag indicative of successfully writing the digital certificate in the communication device upon successfully completing said writing step; it is notoriously well known in the art at the time of invention to set a completion flag indicative of successful writing of data; a setting of a flag to indicate successful writing is a means of ensuring that the value stored in memory is valid; when the flag is not set after an attempted writing, the procedure is capable of identifying an error state immediately; this feature is generally known in the art as a validity bit. Official notice of this teaching is taken. It would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made for the invention of

Vilhuber to include an additional step of setting a completion flag indicative of successfully writing the digital certificate in the communication device upon successfully completing said writing step. One would be motivated to do so to identify error states as soon as they occur to prevent the initial error from compounding further into the method as known to one of ordinary skill in the art. The aforementioned cover the limitations of claim 13.

18. As per claim 14, the rejection of claim 11 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Vilhuber in view of Amro is incorporated herein. In addition, Vilhuber discloses the information processing apparatus according to claim 11 further comprising a deleting unit connected to said digital certificate processing unit for deleting the digital certificate from the information processing device after said digital certificate processing unit successfully completes writing of the digital certificate in the communication device. (deletion of memory state in dynamic memory is an inherent feature)

19. As per claim 15, Vilhuber discloses an information processing apparatus for obtaining a digital certificate for communication devices, comprising:

- f. a digital certificate transmission request unit for adding identification information of a predetermined number of communication devices for production to a digital certificate transmission request for obtaining digital certificates to be used for confirming the communication devices during communication, said digital certificate transmission request unit transmitting the identification-

information-added digital certificate transmission request to a digital certificate management device (5:19-24; 6:39-40);

g. a digital certificate processing unit connected to said digital certificate transmission request unit for receiving corresponding ones of the digital certificates from the digital certificate management device in response to the identification-information-added digital certificate transmission request, said digital certificate processing unit temporarily storing the correspondingly received digital certificates in memory of an information processing device (6:36-49); and

h. an input unit connected to the digital certificate processing unit for inputting identification information on the predetermined number of the communication devices from a predetermined source(5:53-67), wherein said digital certificate processing unit reading the digital certificates corresponding to the input identification information from the information processing device, said digital certificate processing unit transmitting each of the correspondingly read digital certificates to a corresponding one of the communication devices according to the scanned identification information and writing each of the correspondingly read digital certificates to memory in the corresponding one of the communication devices. (8:5-8 and lines 36-49)

20. Vilhuber does not disclose a production management system for providing production numbers as part of the identification information and a scanning unit for scanning identification information from a communication device; a scanning unit connected to said digital certificate processing unit for scanning a barcode indicative of

the identification information on the predetermined number of the communication devices from a predetermined source. Amro discloses a method for building a computer system, whereby a production identifier is associated with order information and is stored in a database; wherein the production identifier is coded as a barcode on an identification device; once the barcode is scanned, the production identifier is stored in a server; when the computer system is assembled then powered up, the production identifier is sent to the server, where a script on the server associated with the scanned identifier is executed; one or more software components are then installed onto the computer system by the server. Figs. 2 and 3, col. 2:60-3:8; 3:52-4:4; 4:48-65. It would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made for the invention of Vilhuber to include a production management system for providing production numbers as part of the identification information and a scanning unit for scanning identification information from a communication device; a scanning unit connected to said digital certificate processing unit for scanning a barcode indicative of the identification information on the predetermined number of the communication devices from a predetermined source. One would be motivated to do so for an efficient means of provisioning computing systems as known to one of ordinary skill in the art. See also, Amro, col. 1:27-32.

21. Finally, the feature of connecting the digital certificate transmission request unit with the scanning unit would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art because the information scanned from the barcode is included in the certificate request. The aforementioned cover the limitations of claim 15.

22. As per claim 16, the rejection of claim 15 under Vilhuber in view of Amro is incorporated herein. In addition, Vilhuber discloses the information processing apparatus according to claim 15 further comprising a coding unit connected to said digital certificate processing unit for coding each of the correspondingly read digital certificates prior to transmitting to a corresponding one of the communication devices according to the inputted identification information. Col. 12:33-51; fig. 2, reference no. 206.

23. As per claim 17, the rejection of claim 15 under Vilhuber in view of Amro is incorporated herein. Although Vilhuber does not expressly disclose a flag setting unit connected to said digital certificate processing unit for setting a completion flag indicative of successfully writing the digital certificate in the communication device upon successfully completing said writing step; it is notoriously well known in the art at the time of invention to set a completion flag indicative of a successful write; a setting of flag to indicate successful writing is a means of ensuring that the value stored in memory is valid; when the flag is not set after an attempted writing, the procedure is capable of identifying an error state immediately; this feature is generally known in the art as a validity bit. Official notice of this teaching is taken. It would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made for the invention of Vilhuber to include a flag setting unit connected to said digital certificate processing unit for setting a completion flag indicative of successfully writing the digital certificate in the

communication device upon successfully completing said writing step. One would be motivated to do so to identify error states as soon as they occur to prevent the initial error from compounding further into the method as known to one of ordinary skill in the art. The aforementioned cover the limitations of claim 17.

24. As per claim 18, the rejection of claim 15 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Vilhuber in view of Amro is incorporated herein. In addition, Vilhuber discloses the information processing apparatus for according to claim 15 further comprising a deleting unit connected to said digital certificate processing unit for deleting the digital certificate from the information processing device upon successfully completing said writing step. (deletion of memory state in dynamic memory is an inherent feature)

25. As per claim 19, Vilhuber discloses an information management system over a network (fig. 2), comprising:

- i. communication devices each further comprising a memory unit for storing a digital certificate (fig. 2, reference no. 104);
- j. an information processing unit connected to said communication devices (fig. 2, reference no. 202) further comprising:
 - i. a digital certificate transmission request unit for adding identification information of a predetermined number of said communication devices for production to a digital certificate transmission request for obtaining digital

- certificates to be used for confirming said communication devices during communication and for transmitting the identification-information-added digital certificate transmission (fig. 2, reference no. 206); and
- ii. a first digital certificate transmission unit connected to said digital certificate transmission request unit (fig. 2, reference nos. 110, 206 and 250);
 - k. a digital certificate management unit connected to said information processing unit (fig. 2, reference nos. 206 and 110) further comprising:
 - iii. a digital certificate generation unit for receiving the identification-information-added digital certificate transmission and generating a corresponding one of the digital certificates (fig. 2, reference nos. 110 and 210); and
 - iv. a second digital certificate transmission unit connected to said digital certificate generation unit for transmitting the corresponding one of the digital certificates to said information processing unit (fig. 2, reference nos. 110, 206 and 250),
 - l. wherein said digital certificate transmission unit receiving the corresponding one of the digital certificates from said second digital certificate transmission unit in response to the identification-information-added digital certificate transmission request, said first digital certificate transmission unit transmitting the correspondingly received digital certificate to the communication

device and writing the correspondingly received digital certificate to said memory in the communication device. (5:19-24; 6:36-50; 8:5-8 and lines 21-49)

26. Vilhuber does not disclose a production management system for providing production numbers as part of the identification information and a scanning unit for scanning identification information from each of said communication device. Amro discloses a method for building a computer system, whereby a production identifier is associated with order information and is stored in a database; wherein the production identifier is coded as a barcode on an identification device; once the barcode is scanned, the production identifier is stored in a server; when the computer system is assembled then powered up, the production identifier is sent to the server, where a script on the server associated with the scanned identifier is executed; one or more software components are then installed onto the computer system by the server. Figs. 2 and 3, col. 2:60-3:8; 3:52-4:4; 4:48-65. It would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made for the invention of Vilhuber to include a production management system for providing production numbers as part of the identification information and a scanning unit for scanning identification information from each of said communication device. One would be motivated to do so for an efficient means of provisioning computing systems as known to one of ordinary skill in the art. See also, Amro, col. 1:27-32.

27. Finally, the feature of connecting the digital certificate transmission request unit with the scanning unit would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art because the

information scanned from the barcode is included in the certificate request. The aforementioned cover the limitations of claim 19.

28. As per claim 20, the rejection of claim 19 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Vilhuber in view of Amro is incorporated herein. In addition, Vilhuber discloses wherein said digital certificate transmission unit confirms the communication device based upon the digital certificate and further comprises a coding unit connected to said first digital certificate transmission unit for coding each of the correspondingly read digital certificates prior to transmitting to a corresponding one of the communication devices. Fig. 2, reference nos. 206 and 210.

29. As per claim 21, the rejection of claim 19 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Vilhuber in view of Amro is incorporated herein. Although Vilhuber does not expressly disclose the information management system according to claim 19 further comprising a flag setting unit connected to said information processing unit for setting a completion flag indicative of successfully writing the digital certificate in the communication device after said first digital certificate transmission unit successfully completes writing of the digital certificate in the communication device; it is notoriously well known in the art at the time of invention to set a completion flag indicative of a successful writing of data; a setting of a flag to indicate successful writing is a means of ensuring that the value stored in memory is valid; when the flag is not set after an attempted writing, the procedure is capable of immediately identifying an error state; this

feature is generally known in the art as a validity bit. Official notice of this teaching is taken. It would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made for the invention of Vilhuber to include a flag setting unit connected to said information processing unit for setting a completion flag indicative of successfully writing the digital certificate in the communication device after said first digital certificate transmission unit successfully completes writing of the digital certificate in the communication device. One would be motivated to do so to identify error states as soon as they occur to prevent the initial error from compounding further into the method as known to one of ordinary skill in the art. The aforementioned cover the limitations of claim 21.

30. As per claim 22, the rejection of claim 19 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Vilhuber in view of Amro is incorporated herein. In addition, Vilhuber discloses the information management system according to claim 19 further comprising a deleting unit connected to said information processing unit for deleting the digital certificate from said information processing device after said first digital certificate transmission unit successfully completes writing of the digital certificate in the communication device. (deletion of memory state in dynamic memory is an inherent feature)

31. Claims 1-9 and 23-39 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Vilhuber in view of Amro and Ramasubramani et al. US 6,233,577 (hereinafter Ramasubramani).

32. As per claim 1, Vilhuber discloses a method of obtaining a digital certificate for communication devices, comprising the steps of:

- m. adding identification information of a communication device to a digital certificate transmission request for obtaining a digital certificate to be used for confirming the communication device during communication; transmitting the identification-information-added digital certificate transmission request to the digital certificate management device (5:19-24; 6:36-49);
- n. receiving a corresponding one of the digital certificates from the digital certificate management device in response to the identification-information-added digital certificate transmission request; transmitting the correspondingly received digital certificate to the communication device; and writing the correspondingly received digital certificate to memory in the communication device. (8:5-8 and lines 21-49)

33. Vilhuber does not disclose obtaining identification information corresponding to production numbers for communication devices; and scanning identification information from one of the communication devices. Amro discloses a method for building a computer system, whereby a production identifier is associated with order information and is stored in a database; wherein the production identifier is coded as a barcode on

an identification device; once the barcode is scanned, the production identifier is stored in a server; when the computer system is assembled then powered up, the production identifier is sent to the server, where a script on the server associated with the scanned identifier is executed; one or more software components are then installed onto the computer system by the server. Figs. 2 and 3, col. 2:60-3:8; 3:52-4:4; 4:48-65. It would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made for the invention of Vilhuber to obtain identification information corresponding to production numbers for communication devices; and scanning identification information from one of the communication devices. One would be motivated to do so for an efficient means of provisioning computing systems as known to one of ordinary skill in the art. See also, Amro, col. 1:27-32.

34. In addition, Vilhuber does not disclose storing digital certificates each with corresponding identification information in a digital certificate management device. Ramasubramani discloses a centralized certificate management system whereby a certificate management module reserves a fixed number of free certificates to reduce latency of obtaining certificates by its requestors; when a request for a certificate is submitted to the certificate management device, a new certificate is generated to maintain the number of free certificates; wherein a request for a certificate includes a device ID, which indexes an account having associated with the account a digital certificate. Col. 6:56-6:60. Therefore, it would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made for the invention of Vilhuber to store digital certificates each with corresponding identification information in a digital certificate

management device. One would be motivated to do so to reduce the latency of obtaining certificates by its requestors as disclosed by Ramasubramani. The aforementioned cover the limitations of claim 1.

35. As per claim 2, Vilhuber discloses a method of obtaining a digital certificate for communication devices, comprising the steps of:

- o. adding identification information of a predetermined number of communication devices for production to a digital certificate transmission request for obtaining digital certificates to be used for confirming the communication devices during communication; transmitting the identification-information-added digital certificate transmission request to the digital certificate management device (5:19-24; 6:39-40);
- p. receiving corresponding ones of the digital certificates from the digital certificate management device in response to the identification-information-added digital certificate transmission request (6:36-49);
- q. temporarily storing the correspondingly received digital certificates in memory of an information processing device (6:45-50);
- r. inputting a portion of the identification information on the predetermined number of the communication devices (5:53-67; 9:6-38);
- s. reading the digital certificates corresponding to the inputted identification information from the information processing device; transmitting each of the correspondingly read digital certificates to a corresponding one of the

communication devices according to the inputted identification information (8:5-8); and

t. writing each of the correspondingly read digital certificates to memory in the corresponding one of the communication devices. (8:21-49)

36. Vilhuber does not disclose obtaining identification information corresponding to production numbers for communication devices; and scanning identification information from one of the communication devices. Amro discloses a method for building a computer system, whereby a production identifier is associated with order information and is stored in a database; wherein the production identifier is coded as a barcode on an identification device; once the barcode is scanned, the production identifier is stored in a server; when the computer system is assembled then powered up, the production identifier is sent to the server, where a script on the server associated with the scanned identifier is executed; one or more software components are then installed onto the computer system by the server. Figs. 2 and 3, col. 2:60-3:8; 3:52-4:4; 4:48-65. It would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made for the invention of Vilhuber to obtain identification information corresponding to production numbers for communication devices; and scanning identification information from one of the communication devices. One would be motivated to do so for an efficient means of provisioning computing systems as known to one of ordinary skill in the art. See also, Amro, col. 1:27-32.

37. In addition, Vilhuber does not disclose storing digital certificates each with corresponding identification information in a digital certificate management device.

Ramasubramani discloses a centralized certificate management system whereby a certificate management module reserves a fixed number of free certificates to reduce latency of obtaining certificates by its requestors; when a request for a certificate is submitted to the certificate management device, a new certificate is generated to maintain the number of free certificates; wherein a request for a certificate includes a device ID, which indexes an account having associated with the account a digital certificate. Col. 6:56-6:60. Therefore, it would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made for the invention of Vilhuber to store digital certificates each with corresponding identification information in a digital certificate management device. One would be motivated to do so to reduce the latency of obtaining certificates by its requestors as disclosed by Ramasubramani, *ibid*. The aforementioned cover the limitations of claim 2

38. As per claim 3, the rejection of claim 2 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Vilhuber in view of Amro and Ramasubramani is incorporated herein. In addition, Ramasubramani discloses the method comprising the additional step of coding each of the correspondingly read digital certificates prior to transmitting to a corresponding one of the communication devices according to the inputted identification information. Col. 12:33-51; fig. 2, reference no. 206.

39. As per claim 4, the rejection of claim 2 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Vilhuber in view of Amro and Ramasubramani is incorporated herein.

Although Vilhuber does not expressly disclose an additional step of setting a completion flag indicative of successfully writing the digital certificate in the communication device upon successfully completing said writing step; it is notoriously well known in the art at the time of invention to set a completion flag indicative of successful write; a setting of a flag to indicate successful writing is a means of ensuring that the value stored in memory is valid; when the flag is not set after an attempted writing, the procedure is capable of immediately identifying an error state; this feature is generally known in the art as a validity bit. Official notice of this teaching is taken. It would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made for the invention of Vilhuber to include an additional step of setting a completion flag indicative of successfully writing the digital certificate in the communication device upon successfully completing said writing step. One would be motivated to do so to identify error states as soon as they occur to prevent the initial error from compounding further into the method as known to one of ordinary skill in the art. The aforementioned cover the limitations of claim 4.

40. As per claim 5, the rejection of claim 2 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Vilhuber in view of Amro and Ramasubramani is incorporated herein. In addition, Vilhuber discloses the method further comprising an additional step of deleting the digital certificate from the information processing device upon successfully completing said writing step. (deletion of memory state in dynamic memory is an inherent feature)

41. As per claim 6, Vilhuber discloses a method of obtaining a digital certificate for communication devices, comprising the steps of:

- u. adding identification information of a predetermined number of communication devices for production to a digital certificate transmission request for obtaining digital certificates to be used for confirming the communication devices during communication; transmitting the identification-information-added digital certificate transmission request to the digital certificate management device (5:19-24; 6:39-40);
- v. receiving corresponding ones of the digital certificates from the digital certificate management device in response to the identification-information-added digital certificate transmission request (6:36-49);
- w. temporarily storing the correspondingly received digital certificates in memory of an information processing device (6:45-50);
- x. inputting a portion of the identification information on the predetermined number of the communication devices (5:53-67);
- y. reading the digital certificates corresponding to the input identification information from the information processing device; transmitting each of the correspondingly read digital certificates to a corresponding one of the communication devices according to the scanned identification information (8:5-8); and

z. writing each of the correspondingly read digital certificates to memory in the corresponding one of the communication devices. (8:21-49)

42. Vilhuber does not disclose obtaining identification information corresponding to production numbers for communication devices; scanning identification information from one of the communication devices; and scanning a barcode indicative of the identification information on the predetermined number of the communication devices from a predetermined source. Amro discloses a method for building a computer system, whereby a production identifier is associated with order information and is stored in a database; wherein the production identifier is coded as a barcode on an identification device; once the barcode is scanned, the production identifier is stored in a server; when the computer system is assembled then powered up, the production identifier is sent to the server, where a script on the server associated with the scanned identifier is executed; one or more software components are then installed onto the computer system by the server. Figs. 2 and 3, col. 2:60-3:8; 3:52-4:4; 4:48-65. It would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made for the invention of Vilhuber to obtain identification information corresponding to production numbers for communication devices; scanning identification information from one of the communication devices; and scanning a barcode indicative of the identification information on the predetermined number of the communication devices from a predetermined source. One would be motivated to do so for an efficient means of provisioning computing systems as known to one of ordinary skill in the art. See also, Amro, col. 1:27-32.

43. In addition, Vilhuber does not disclose storing digital certificates each with corresponding identification information in a digital certificate management device. Ramasubramani discloses a centralized certificate management system whereby a certificate management module reserves a fixed number of free certificates to reduce latency of obtaining certificates by its requestors; when a request for a certificate is submitted to the certificate management device, a new certificate is generated to maintain the number of free certificates; wherein a request for a certificate includes a device ID, which indexes an account having associated with the account a digital certificate. Col. 6:56-6:60. Therefore, it would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made for the invention of Vilhuber to store digital certificates each with corresponding identification information in a digital certificate management device. One would be motivated to do so to reduce the latency of obtaining certificates by its requestors as disclosed by Ramasubramani, *ibid*.

44. The aforementioned cover the limitations of claim 6.

45. As per claim 7, the rejection of claim 6 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Vilhuber in view of Amro and Ramasubramani is incorporated herein. In addition, Ramasubramani discloses the method comprising the additional step of coding each of the correspondingly read digital certificates prior to transmitting to a corresponding one of the communication devices according to the scanned identification information. Col. 12:33-51; fig. 2, reference no. 206.

46. As per claim 8, the rejection of claim 6 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Vilhuber in view of Amro and Ramasubramani is incorporated herein. Although Vilhuber does not expressly disclose an additional step of setting a completion flag indicative of successfully writing the digital certificate in the communication device upon successfully completing said writing step; it is notoriously well known in the art at the time of invention to set a completion flag indicative of a successful write; a setting of flag to indicate successful writing is a means of ensuring that the value stored in memory is valid; when the flag is not set after an attempted writing, the procedure is immediately capable of identifying an error state; this feature is generally known in the art as a validity bit. Official notice of this teaching is taken. It would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made for the invention of Vilhuber to include an additional step of setting a completion flag indicative of successfully writing the digital certificate in the communication device upon successfully completing said writing step. One would be motivated to do so to identify error states as soon as they occur to prevent the initial error from compounding further into the method as known to one of ordinary skill in the art. The aforementioned cover the limitations of claim 8.

47. As per claim 9, the rejection of claim 6 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Vilhuber in view of Amro and Ramasubramani is incorporated herein. In addition, Vilhuber discloses the method further comprising an additional step of deleting the digital certificate from the information processing device upon successfully

completing said writing step. (deletion of memory state in dynamic memory is an inherent feature)

48. As per claim 23, Vilhuber discloses an information management system over a network (fig. 2), comprising:

- aa. communication devices each further comprising a memory unit for storing a digital certificate (fig. 2, reference no. 104);
- bb. an information processing unit connected to said communication devices (fig. 2, reference no. 202) further comprising:
 - v. an input unit for inputting identification information for said communication devices (5:53-67; 9:6-38);
 - vi. a digital certificate transmission request unit for adding identification information of a predetermined number of said communication devices for production to a digital certificate transmission request for obtaining digital certificates to be used for confirming said communication devices during communication and for transmitting the identification-information-added digital certificate transmission (fig. 2, reference no. 206); and
 - vii. a first digital certificate transmission unit connected to said digital certificate transmission request unit (fig. 2, reference nos. 110, 206 and 250);
- cc. a digital certificate management unit connected to said information processing unit (fig. 2, reference nos. 206 and 110) further comprising:

- viii. a digital certificate generation unit for receiving the identification-information-added digital certificate transmission and generating a corresponding one of the digital certificates (fig. 2, reference nos. 110 and 210); and
 - ix. a second digital certificate transmission unit connected to said digital certificate generation unit for transmitting the corresponding one of the digital certificates to said information processing unit (fig. 2, reference nos. 110, 206 and 250),
 - dd. wherein said digital certificate transmission unit receiving the corresponding one of the digital certificates from said second digital certificate transmission unit in response to the identification-information-added digital certificate transmission request, said first digital certificate transmission unit transmitting the correspondingly received digital certificate to the communication device and writing the correspondingly received digital certificate to said memory in the communication device. (6:36-50; 5:19-24; 8:5-8 and lines 36-49)
49. Vilhuber does not disclose a production management system for providing production numbers as a part of identification information. Amro discloses a system for building a computer system, whereby a production identifier is associated with order information and is stored in a database; wherein the production identifier is coded as a barcode on an identification device; once the barcode is scanned, the production identifier is stored in a server; when the computer system is assembled then powered up, the production identifier is sent to the server, where a script on the server

associated with the scanned identifier is executed; one or more software components are then installed onto the computer system by the server. Figs. 2 and 3, col. 2:60-3:8; 3:52-4:4; 4:48-65. It would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made for the invention of Vilhuber to include a production management system for providing production numbers as a part of identification information. One would be motivated to do so for an efficient means of provisioning computing systems as known to one of ordinary skill in the art. See also, Amro, col. 1:27-32.

50. In addition, Vilhuber does not disclose a digital certificate storage unit for storing the digital certificates; wherein the digital certificate storage unit receiving the corresponding one of the digital certificates from said second digital certificate transmission unit in response to the identification-information-added digital certificate transmission request, said first digital certificate transmission unit reading the correspondingly received digital certificate from said digital certificate storage unit based upon the inputted identification information. Ramasubramani discloses a centralized certificate management system whereby a certificate management module reserves a fixed number of free certificates to reduce latency of obtaining certificates by its requestors; when a request for a certificate is submitted to the certificate management device, a new certificate is generated to maintain the number of free certificates; wherein a request for a certificate includes a device ID, which indexes an account having associated with the account a digital certificate. Col. 6:56-6:60. Therefore, it would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made for the invention of Vilhuber to include a digital certificate storage unit for storing the

digital certificates; wherein the digital certificate storage unit receiving the corresponding one of the digital certificates from said second digital certificate transmission unit in response to the identification-information-added digital certificate transmission request, said first digital certificate transmission unit reading the correspondingly received digital certificate from said digital certificate storage unit based upon the inputted identification information. One would be motivated to do so to reduce the latency of obtaining certificates by its requestors as disclosed by Ramasubramani, *ibid*. The aforementioned cover the limitations of claim 23

51. As per claim 24, the rejection of claim 23 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Vilhuber in view of Amro and Ramasubramani is incorporated herein. In addition, Vilhuber discloses wherein said digital certificate transmission unit confirms the communication device based upon the digital certificate and further comprises a coding unit connected to said first digital certificate transmission unit for coding each of the correspondingly read digital certificates prior to transmitting to a corresponding one of the communication devices. Fig. 2, reference nos. 206 and 210.

52. As per claim 25, the rejection of claim 23 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Vilhuber in view of Amro and Ramasubramani is incorporated herein. Although Vilhuber does not expressly disclose the information management system according to claim 23 further comprising a flag setting unit connected to said information processing unit for setting a completion flag indicative of successfully writing the digital

certificate in the communication device after said first digital certificate transmission unit successfully completes writing of the digital certificate in the communication device; it is notoriously well known in the art at the time of invention to set a completion flag indicative of a successful writing; a setting of a flag to indicate successful writing is a means of ensuring that the value stored in memory is valid; when the flag is not set after an attempted writing, the procedure is capable of identifying an error state immediately; this feature is generally known in the art as a validity bit. Official notice of this teaching is taken. It would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made for the invention of Vilhuber to include a flag setting unit connected to said information processing unit for setting a completion flag indicative of successfully writing the digital certificate in the communication device after said first digital certificate transmission unit successfully completes writing of the digital certificate in the communication device. One would be motivated to do so to identify error states as soon as they occur to prevent the initial error from compounding further into the method as known to one of ordinary skill in the art. The aforementioned cover the limitations of claim 25.

53. As per claim 26, the rejection of claim 23 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Vilhuber in view of Amro and Ramasubramani is incorporated herein. In addition, Vilhuber discloses the information management system according to claim 23 further comprising a deleting unit connected to said information processing unit for deleting the digital certificate from said information processing device after said first

digital certificate transmission unit successfully completes writing of the digital certificate in the communication device. (deletion of memory state in dynamic memory is an inherent feature)

54. As per claim 27, Vilhuber discloses an information management system over a network (fig. 2), comprising:

- ee. communication devices each further comprising a memory unit for storing a digital certificate (fig. 2, reference no. 104);
- ff. an information processing unit connected to said communication devices (fig. 2, reference no. 202) further comprising:
 - x. an input unit for inputting identification information for said communication device (5:53-67; 9:6-38);
 - xi. a digital certificate transmission request unit for adding identification information of a predetermined number of said communication devices for production to a digital certificate transmission request for obtaining digital certificates to be used for confirming said communication devices during communication and for transmitting the identification-information-added digital certificate transmission (fig. 2, reference no. 206); and
 - xii. a first digital certificate transmission unit connected to said digital certificate transmission request unit (fig. 2, reference nos. 110, 206 and 250);

- gg. a digital certificate management unit connected to said information processing unit (fig. 2, reference nos. 206 and 110) further comprising:
- xiii. a digital certificate generation unit for receiving the identification-information-added digital certificate transmission and generating a corresponding one of the digital certificates (fig. 2, reference nos. 110 and 210); and
- xiv. a second digital certificate transmission unit connected to said digital certificate generation unit for transmitting the corresponding one of the digital certificates to said information processing unit (fig. 2, reference nos. 110, 206 and 250),
- hh. wherein said digital certificate transmission unit receiving the corresponding one of the digital certificates from said second digital certificate transmission unit in response to the identification-information-added digital certificate transmission request, said first digital certificate transmission unit transmitting the correspondingly received digital certificate to the communication device and writing the correspondingly received digital certificate to said memory in the communication device. (6:36-50; 5:19-24; 8:5-8 and lines 36-49)
55. Vilhuber does not disclose a production management system for providing production numbers as a part of identification information; a scanning unit for scanning a barcode from said communication device as identification information for said communication device; wherein the first digital certificate transmission unit reading the correspondingly received digital certificate from said digital certificate storage unit based

upon the scanned identification information. Amro discloses a system for building a computer system, whereby a production identifier is associated with order information and is stored in a database; wherein the production identifier is coded as a barcode on an identification device; once the barcode is scanned, the production identifier is stored in a server; when the computer system is assembled then powered up, the production identifier is sent to the server, where a script on the server associated with the scanned identifier is executed; one or more software components are then installed onto the computer system by the server. Figs. 2 and 3, col. 2:60-3:8; 3:52-4:4; 4:48-65. It would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made for the invention of Vilhuber to include a production management system for providing production numbers as a part of identification information; a scanning unit for scanning a barcode from said communication device as identification information for said communication device; wherein the first digital certificate transmission unit reading the correspondingly received digital certificate from said digital certificate storage unit based upon the scanned identification information. One would be motivated to do so for an efficient means of provisioning computing systems as known to one of ordinary skill in the art. See also, Amro, col. 1:27-32.

56. In addition, Vilhuber does not disclose a digital certificate storage unit for storing the digital certificates; wherein the digital certificate storage unit receiving the corresponding one of the digital certificates from said second digital certificate transmission unit in response to the identification-information-added digital certificate transmission request, said first digital certificate transmission unit reading the

correspondingly received digital certificate from said digital certificate storage unit based upon the inputted identification information. Ramasubramani discloses a centralized certificate management system whereby a certificate management module reserves a fixed number of free certificates to reduce latency of obtaining certificates by its requestors; when a request for a certificate is submitted to the certificate management device, a new certificate is generated to maintain the number of free certificates; wherein a request for a certificate includes a device ID, which indexes an account having associated with the account a digital certificate. Col. 6:56-6:60. Therefore, it would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made for the invention of Vilhuber to include a digital certificate storage unit for storing the digital certificates; wherein the digital certificate storage unit receiving the corresponding one of the digital certificates from said second digital certificate transmission unit in response to the identification-information-added digital certificate transmission request, said first digital certificate transmission unit reading the correspondingly received digital certificate from said digital certificate storage unit based upon the inputted identification information. One would be motivated to do so to reduce the latency of obtaining certificates by its requestors as disclosed by Ramasubramani, *ibid*.

57. Finally, the feature of connecting the digital certificate transmission request unit with the scanning unit would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art because the information scanned from the barcode is included in the certificate request. The aforementioned cover the limitations of claim 27.

58. As per claim 28, the rejection of claim 27 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Vilhuber in view of Amro and Ramasubramani is incorporated herein. In addition, Vilhuber discloses wherein said digital certificate transmission unit confirms the communication device based upon the digital certificate and further comprises a coding unit connected to said first digital certificate transmission unit for coding each of the correspondingly read digital certificates prior to transmitting to a corresponding one of the communication devices. Fig. 2, reference nos. 206 and 210.

59. As per claim 29, the rejection of claim 27 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Vilhuber in view of Amro and Ramasubramani is incorporated herein. Although Vilhuber does not expressly disclose the information management system according to claim 27 further comprising a flag setting unit connected to said information processing unit for setting a completion flag indicative of successfully writing the digital certificate in the communication device after said first digital certificate transmission unit successfully completes writing of the digital certificate in the communication device; it is notoriously well known in the art at the time of invention to set a completion flag indicative of a successful write; a setting of a flag to indicate successful writing is a means of ensuring that the value stored in memory is valid; when the flag is not set after an attempted writing, the procedure is capable of identifying an error state immediately; this feature is generally known in the art as a validity bit. Official notice of this teaching is taken. It would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made for the invention of Vilhuber to include a flag setting unit connected to said

information processing unit for setting a completion flag indicative of successfully writing the digital certificate in the communication device after said first digital certificate transmission unit successfully completes writing of the digital certificate in the communication device. One would be motivated to do so to identify error states as soon as they occur to prevent the initial error from compounding further into the method as known to one of ordinary skill in the art. The aforementioned cover the limitations of claim 29.

60. As per claim 30, the rejection of claim 27 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Vilhuber in view of Amro and Ramasubramani is incorporated herein. In addition, Vilhuber discloses the information management system according to claim 27 further comprising a deleting unit connected to said information processing unit for deleting the digital certificate from said information processing device after said first digital certificate transmission unit successfully completes writing of the digital certificate in the communication device. (deletion of memory state in dynamic memory is an inherent feature)

61. As per claim 31, it is a claim corresponding to claim 1, and it does not teach or define above the information claimed in claim 1. Therefore, claim 31 is rejected as being unpatentable over Vilhuber in view of Amro and Ramasubramani for the same reasons set forth in the rejection of claim 1.

62. As per claims 32-35, they are claims corresponding to claims 2-5, and they do not teach or define above the information claimed in claims 2-5. Therefore, claims 32-35 are rejected as being unpatentable over Vilhuber in view of Amro and Ramasubramani for the same reasons set forth in the rejections of claims 32-35.

63. As per claims 36-39, they are claims corresponding to claims 6-9, and they do not teach or define above the information claimed in claims 6-9. Therefore, claims 36-39 are rejected as being unpatentable over Vilhuber in view of Amro and Ramasubramani for the same reasons set forth in the rejections of claims 6-9.

Conclusion

64. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of

the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Communications Inquiry

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to JUNG KIM whose telephone number is (571)272-3804. The examiner can normally be reached on FLEX.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gilberto Barron can be reached on 571-272-3799. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/Jung Kim/
Primary Examiner, AU 2432